

Employee Post-Travel Disclosure of Travel Expenses

Date/Time Stamp:
RECEIVED
SECRETARY OF THE SENATE
PUBLIC RECORDS

Post-Travel Filing Instructions: Complete this form within 30 days of returning from travel. Submit all forms to the Office of Public Records in 232 Hart Building.

2019 AUG 29 PM 12:03

In compliance with Rule 35.2(a) and (c), I make the following disclosures with respect to travel expenses that have been or will be reimbursed/paid for me. I also certify that I have attached:

- ☒ The **original** *Employee Pre-Travel Authorization* (Form RE-1), **AND**
☒ A **copy** of the *Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form* with all attachments (itinerary, invitee list, etc.)

Private Sponsor(s) (list all): Malaria No More Fund

Travel date(s): August 18-24, 2019

Name of accompanying family member (if any): None

Relationship to Traveler: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child

IF THE COST OF LODGING DID NOT INCREASE DUE TO THE ACCOMPANYING SPOUSE OR DEPENDENT CHILD, ONLY INCLUDE LODGING COSTS IN EMPLOYEE EXPENSES. (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

Expenses for Employee:

	Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meal Expenses	Other Expenses (Amount & Description)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimate <input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amount	Total: \$6244 Flights: \$6104 Vans: \$140	Total: \$614 Kigali: \$168/night (3 nights) Nyagatare: \$110/night (1 night)	Total: \$210 \$65 daily in Kigali \$25 daily in Nyagatare	Total: \$229 Visa: \$30 Trip Insurance: \$199

Expenses for Accompanying Spouse or Dependent Child (if applicable):

	Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meal Expenses	Other Expenses (Amount & Description)
<input type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimate <input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amount				

Provide a description of all meetings and events attended. See Senate Rule 35.2(c)(6). (Attach additional pages if necessary.): See post-trip itinerary, which includes this requested information.

8/29/19
(Date)

Salvador Ortega
(Printed name of traveler)

[Signature]
(Signature of traveler)

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING MEMBER/OFFICER:

I have made a determination that the expenses set out above in connections with travel described in the *Employee Pre-Travel Authorization* form, are necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses as defined in Rule 35.

8/29/19
(Date)

[Signature]
(Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer)

EMPLOYEE PRE-TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION

Pre-Travel Filing Instructions: Complete and submit this form at least 30 days prior to the travel departure date to the **Select Committee on Ethics in SH-220**. Incomplete and late travel submissions will **not** be considered or approved. This form **must** be typed and is available as a fillable PDF on the Committee's website at ethics.senate.gov. Retain a copy of your entire pre-travel submission for your required post-travel disclosure.

Name of Traveler: Salvador OrtegaEmploying Office/Committee: Senator Johnny IsaksonPrivate Sponsor(s) (list all): Malaria No More Fund (MNM)Travel date(s): August 18-24, 2019*Note: If you plan to extend the trip for any reason you **must** notify the Committee.*Destination(s): Kigali, Nyagatare District, and Rwamagana District, Rwanda

Explain how this trip is specifically connected to the traveler's official or representational duties:

I work on Senator Isakson's Foreign Relations Committee work, and attending will enable me to help advise the Senator on Global Health issues in the region.

Name of accompanying family member (if any): _____

Relationship to Employee: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge:

7/10/19
(Date)


(Signature of Employee)


TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING SENATOR/OFFICER (President of the Senate, Secretary of the Senate, Sergeant at Arms, Secretary for the Majority, Secretary for the Minority, and Chaplain):

I, Johnny Isakson hereby authorize Salvador Ortega
(Print Senator's/Officer's Name) (Print Traveler's Name)

an employee under my direct supervision, to accept payment or reimbursement for necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses for travel to the event described above. I have determined that this travel is in connection with his or her duties as a Senate employee or an officeholder, and will not create the appearance that he or she is using public office for private gain.

I have also determined that the attendance of the employee's spouse or child is appropriate to assist in the representation of the Senate. (signify "yes" by checking box) ☐

7/10/19
(Date)


(Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer)

PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM

This form must be completed by any private entity offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to Senate Members, officers, or employees (Senate Rule 35, clause 2). Each sponsor of a fact-finding trip must sign the completed form. The trip sponsor(s) must provide a copy of the completed form to each invited Senate traveler, who will then forward it to the Ethics Committee with any other required materials. The trip sponsor(s) should **NOT** submit the form directly to the Ethics Committee. Please consult the accompanying instructions for more detailed definitions and other key information.

The Senate Member, officer, or employee **MUST** also provide a copy of this form, along with the appropriate travel authorization and reimbursement form, to the Office of Public Records (OPR), Room 232 of the Hart Building, within thirty (30) days after the travel is completed.

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1. Sponsor(s) of the trip (please list all sponsors): Malaria No More Fund (MNM)
 2. Description of the trip: Fact finding mission to witness firsthand the U.S. government's efforts to combat malaria and other key global health and development challenges in Rwanda.
 3. Dates of travel: August 18-24, 2019
 4. Place of travel: Kigali, Nyagatare District, and Rwamagana District, Rwanda
 5. Name and title of Senate invitees: See attached.
 6. I *certify* that the trip fits one of the following categories:
 - ☐ (A) The sponsor(s) are not registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal **and** do not retain or employ registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal **and** no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *at any point* throughout the trip.
 - OR-**
 - ☒ (B) The sponsor or sponsors are not registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal, but retain or employ one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal and the trip meets the requirements of Senate Rule 35.2(a)(2)(A)(i) or (ii) (*see question 9*).
 7. ☒ I *certify* that the trip will not be financed in any part by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal.

-AND-

☒ I *certify* that the sponsor or sponsors will not accept funds or in-kind contributions earmarked directly or indirectly for the purpose of financing this specific trip from a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal or from a private entity that retains or employs one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal.
 8. I *certify* that:
 - ☒ The trip will not in any part be planned, organized, requested, or arranged by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal except for *de minimis* lobbyist involvement.
 - AND-**
 - ☒ The traveler will not be accompanied on the trip by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal except as provided for by Committee regulations relating to lobbyist accompaniment (*see question 9*).

9. USE ONLY IF YOU CHECKED QUESTION 6(B)

I certify that if the sponsor or sponsors retain or employ one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal, one of the following scenarios applies:

- ☐ (A) The trip is for attendance or participation in a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and one overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *on any segment* of the trip.

- OR -

- ☐ (B) The trip is for attendance or participation in a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and two overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *on any segment* of the trip (see questions 6 and 10).

- OR -

- ☒ (C) The trip is being sponsored only by an organization or organizations designated under § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *at any point* throughout the trip.

10. USE ONLY IF YOU CHECKED QUESTION 9(B)

If the trip includes two overnight stays, please explain why the second night is practically required for Senate invitees to participate in the travel:

11. ☒ An itinerary for the trip is attached to this form. I *certify* that the attached itinerary is a detailed (hour-by-hour), complete, and final itinerary for the trip.

12. Briefly describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip:

Malaria No More is the sole sponsor and paying for 100% of this trip.

13. Briefly describe the stated mission of each sponsor and how the purpose of the trip relates to that mission:

MNM is a 501(c)(3) organization committed to ending deaths from malaria. The purpose of this trip

is to demonstrate how the United States government is playing the leading role in helping to end

deaths by this disease.

Briefly describe each sponsor's prior history of sponsoring congressional trips:
 MNM's history of trips include Tanzania in 2012, Senegal and Switzerland in 2014, Thailand and

Myanmar in 2015, Thailand and Cambodia in 2016, Zambia and Haiti in 2017, and Senegal in 2018.

15. Briefly describe the educational activities performed by each sponsor (other than sponsoring congressional trips):

MNM hosts briefings on malaria and wider health issues on Capitol Hill quarterly.

16. Total Expenses for Each Participant:

	Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meal Expenses	Other Expenses
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Faith estimate	Total: \$6232 Flights: \$6107 Vans: \$125	Total: \$614 Kigali - \$168/night (three nights) Nayagatare - \$110/night (one night)	Total: \$210 \$60 daily in Kigali \$30 daily in Nayagatare	Total: \$229 Visas: \$30 Trip Insurance: \$199
<input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amounts				

17. State whether a) the trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation or b) the trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *specifically with regard* to congressional participation:

This trip involves meetings that are arranged with regard to congressional participation.

18. Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip

Since 2015, Rwanda has seen a 40% reduction in malaria cases and a 43% decrease in malaria-related deaths.

Staff will see firsthand the impact of USG funds in Rwanda.

19. Name and location of hotel or other lodging facility:

Kigali: Marriott Hotel, KN 3 Avenue, Kigali, Rwanda

Nyagatare: Epic Hotel & Suites, Mirama 1 Village, Nyagatare, Rwanda

20. Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility:

Kigali hotel was recommended by the Embassy due to location and safety.

Nyagatare hotel was recommended by the Embassy due to safety and proximity to the field visits.

21. Describe how the daily expenses for lodging, meals, and other expenses provided to trip participants compares to the maximum per diem rates for official Federal Government travel:

All of our expenses are below per diem.

22. Describe the type and class of transportation being provided. Indicate whether coach, business-class or first class transportation will be provided. If first-class fare is being provided, please explain why first-class travel is necessary:

Roundtrip business class airfare to and from Rwanda given the significant travel time.

Ground transportation provided by chartered vehicles.

23. ☒ I represent that the travel expenses that will be paid for or reimbursed to Senate invitees do not include expenditures for recreational activities, alcohol, or entertainment (other than entertainment provided to all attendees as an integral part of the event, as permissible under Senate Rule 35).

24. List any entertainment that will be provided to, paid for, or reimbursed to Senate invitees and explain why the entertainment is an integral part of the event:

None

25. I hereby *certify* that the information contained herein is true, complete and correct. (For trips involving more than one sponsor, you *must* include a completed signature page for each additional sponsor):

Signature of Travel Sponsor: _____

Name and Title: Joshua Blumenfeld, Managing Director of Global Policy and Advocacy

Name of Organization: Malaria No More Fund

Address: 1301 Connecticut Ave NW, Suite 502, Washington, DC 20036

Telephone Number: 202-412-7709

Fax Number: _____

E-mail Address: jblumenfeld@malarianomore.org

Trip Participants:

- Andrew Burnett, Legislative Assistant, Senator Richard Shelby (R-AL)
- Samantha Elleson, Legislative Assistant, Senator Roger Wicker (R-MS)
- Bethany Poulos, Legislative Assistant, Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL)
- Anna Yelverton, Legislative Assistant, Senator Chris Coons (D-DE)
- Salvador Ortega, Legislative Correspondent, Senator Johnny Isakson (R-GA)

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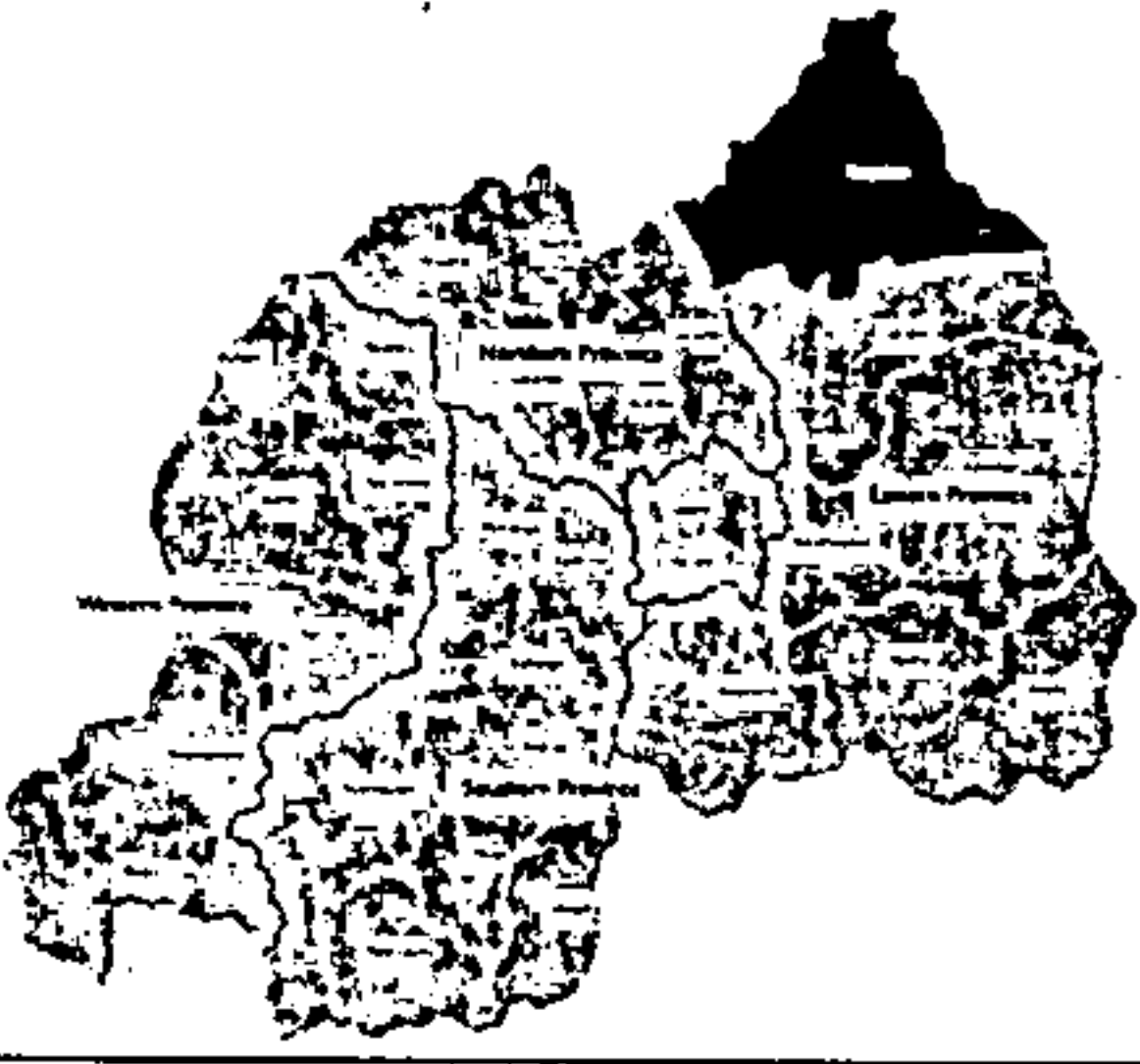
**Tuesday, August 20th
(Kigali)**

Daily Focus: Discuss PMI and the Rwandan Government's National Malaria Control Programs, and regional disease trends, including Ebola

7:30 am – 8:15 am	Working breakfast at hotel <i>MNM staff will host a breakfast briefing providing an overview of the trip, including meetings, site visits and activities</i>	
8:15 am	Depart the Kigali Marriott Hotel for the US Embassy, Kigali	
9:00 am – 10:00 am	Briefing on the President's Malaria Initiative (PMI)/USAID/CDC in Rwanda <i>Presentation by Kaendi and Emily on PMI's role in Rwanda including program history, support to the national malaria control program and collaboration with the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.</i>	Location: US Embassy, Kigali 2657 Ave. de la Gendarmerie, Kigali Room: 1121 POC: Kaendi Munguti, PMI Resident Advisor
10:15 am	Depart US Embassy for Rwanda Biomedical Center (RBC) and National Malaria Control Program (NMCP)	
10:30 am - 11:30 am	Meeting with Director General, Rwanda Biomedical Center and NMCP Staff <i>Presentation by NMCP Director and team on the malaria situation in Rwanda, including key priorities and challenges. Role of PMI, the Global Fund, and the Government of Rwanda will also be discussed.</i>	Location: Rwanda Biomedical Center Remera, Kigali Telephone: + 250 788 314 269 / +250 788 306 814 POC: Dr. Aimable Mbituyumuremyi
11:30 am	Depart NMCP for lunch	
11:45 am - 1:30 pm	Lunch	Location: Brachetto Restaurant POC: Kaendi Munguti
1:30 pm	Depart for US Embassy	
1:45 pm	Arrive US Embassy	US Embassy Rwanda 2657 Avenue de la Gendarmerie


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		POC: Emily Piercefield, Telephone +250 788 300 664
2:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Regional Disease Trends Briefing <i>Presentation by CDC and USAID staff on regional disease trends and how ongoing work in Rwanda supports the United States government's global health security agenda and also USG interagency support to health in Rwanda</i>	Location: US Embassy, Room 1121 POC: Emily Piercefield
3:00 pm- 4:00 pm	Rwanda Context Briefing by Embassy Staff <i>This briefing from senior embassy staff will discuss the status of the relationship between the United States government and Rwanda including updates on various, health, trade, security, defense and economic issues between the two countries.</i>	US Embassy, Room 1121 POC: Emily Piercefield
4:00 pm	Depart US Embassy for Marriott Hotel	
4:15 pm – 7:30 pm	Executive Time at Marriott Hotel	
7:30 pm – 10:00 pm	Dinner with Chargé d'affaires, USAID Mission Director, and CDC Country Director. <i>At this dinner staff will have a chance to hear directly from the Chargé d'affaires about the relationship between the United States and Rwanda and his role in furthering the United States diplomatic, health and development, and security goals in the region.</i>	Location: Marriott Hotel POC: Lisa Godwin & William Herkewitz
RON	Kigali Marriott Hotel	
<p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday, August 21st (Kigali-Nyagatare)</p> <p><i>Daily Focus: Field visit to Nyagatare district to see district-level support to control malaria.</i></p>		

7:00 am	Breakfast at Marriott Hotel	<i>Please bring your packed bags downstairs with you to breakfast, we will be checking out of the hotel.</i>
8:00 am	<p>Depart hotel for Nyagatare District in North Eastern Rwanda.</p> <p><i>An approximately 1 hour briefing on the bus to preview today's site visits provided by Kaendi and Emily. Briefing will discuss tips for proper protocol and an overview of day's site visits. The trip will take about 3 hours from Kigali to the district</i></p>	
11:00 am - 11:30 am	<p>Courtesy call with the Mayor of Nyagatare, the Vice-Mayor of Social Affairs, the District Director of Health and the DG of the District Hospital, at the Mayor's office</p> <p><i>Protocol courtesy visit with the Mayor to introduce the US delegation, the goals of the trip, and outline the various site visits we'll be conducting in his District. Get a brief update of the district. After, there will be a short drive to the District Hospital</i></p>	<p>Location: Mayor's office, Nyagatare POC: William Herkewitz</p>
11:30 am - 1:00 pm	<p>Tour of the Nyagatare District Hospital with the Director General of the Hospital</p> <p><i>This walking tour of the hospital will focus on three key areas: The laboratory where staff will show how they diagnose malaria using microscopy; visit to the pharmacy where patients get treatment with a demonstration on the medical electronic system (e-LMIS) and the district data manager. The data manger will demonstrate how data is collected, collated and used to inform decision making.</i></p>	<p>Location: District Medical Office POC: William Herkewitz</p>
1:00 pm - 2:00 pm	Depart for lunch at Epic Hotel	<p>Location: Epic Hotel . +250 734 016 888</p>

		<p>POC: William Herkewitz</p> <p><i>We will check in the hotel and leave our luggage before the afternoon activities</i></p>
2:00 pm- 2:15 pm	Depart to visit PMI VectorLink District warehouse where Indoor Residual Spraying (IRS) commodities are stored in preparation for spraying	<p>Location: Nyagatare district</p> <p>POC: JB Rwakamari and Kaendi Munguti</p>
2:15 pm- 4:00 pm	<p>Visit PMI VectorLink Warehouse in Nyagatare District and Witness IRS Training Session</p> <p><i>Briefing on Indoor Residual Spraying including the processes and procedures undertaken to comply with USG regulations for storage, use and disposal of waste.</i></p> <p><i>PMI VectorLink staff will present the participants in the training, discuss the selection of participation, the content of the training, the ratio male/female; As part of the training, the spray operators will demonstrate (not using insecticide) how spraying is done on walls in communities</i></p>	<p>Location: Nyagatare district</p> <p>POC: JB Rwakamari and Kaendi Munguti</p>
4:00 pm - 4:15 pm	<p>Depart training venue to visit a family in the community whose house benefited from PMI supported spraying in September/October 2018</p> <p><i>The team will drive from Rwampasha Sector towards Nyagatare and go to Rutare cell/village</i></p>	<p>Location: Rwampasha Sector</p> <p>POC: JB Rwakamari and Emmanuel Hakizimana</p>
4:15 pm - 5:15 pm	Community visit with family in Rutare cell/village	<p>Location: Rutare Cell/village</p> <p>POC: JB Rwakamari and Dr. Emmanuel Hakizimana</p>

	<i>Visit with family whose household benefited from PMI supported IRS in 2018 and discuss their experience with IRS, how sensitization is done and health benefits and protection against malaria</i>	
5:15 pm	Depart for Epic Hotel	
5:30 pm - 7:00 pm	Executive Time	
7:00 pm - 8:45 pm	Working dinner with PMI staff and Mayor of Nyagatare <i>Dinner will be an opportunity to debrief with PMI staff on the day's site visits, ask follow-up questions, and get an understanding of USG's broader priorities in Rwanda.</i>	Location: Epic Hotel POC: Emily Piecefield <i>We will order dinner at lunchtime or have food from the buffet</i>
RON	Epic Hotel in Nyagatare	https://www.mantiscollection.com/hotel/epic-hotel-suites-by-mantis/ +250 734 016 888

Thursday, August 22nd (Nyagatare-Rwamagana-Kigali) <i>Daily Focus: Field Visit to Rwamagana district, to focus in and see village and community level support to control malaria.</i>		
7:00 am – 7:45 am	Breakfast at Epic Hotel	<i>Please bring your bags with you to breakfast, we will be checking out of the hotel.</i>
7:45 am	Depart hotel for Rwamagana District in North Eastern Rwanda. <i>An approximately 1 hour briefing on the bus to preview today's site visits provided by Kaendi and Emily. Briefing will discuss tips for proper protocol and an overview of day's site visits.</i>	

9:30 am – 10:00 am	Courtesy call with District Mayor and District Health staff in Rwamagana	Location: Rwamagana district POC: William Herkewitz
10:00 am - 10:20 am	Depart the Mayor's office to visit Munyaga Health Center <i>The Health Center is located about 20 minutes from the district headquarters. It is a Faith based facility managed by the Catholic church</i>	Location: Munyaga Health Center POC: William Herkewitz
10:20 am - 11:45 am	Visit Munyaga Health Center in Rwamagana <i>Observe malaria prevention, diagnosis and treatment activities at this lower health care level alongside other health center activities supported by USAID. These include maternal/child health programs and witness first-hand the implementation of integrated health programs.</i>	Location: Munyaga Health Center POC: William Herkewitz
11:45 am	Depart Munyaga Health Center to visit a Community Health Worker at Kangabo Village	Location: Munyaga Health Center POC: William Herkewitz
12:00 pm – 1:45 pm	Arrive at Kangabo Village and meet with Community Health Workers. <i>During this visit we will observe a Community Health Worker diagnosing and treating malaria. Over 50% of all malaria cases in Rwanda are diagnosed and treated at the community level. These are volunteers who work on health and nutrition in their communities.</i>	Location: Kaduha cell/Kangabo Village POC: Aline Uwimana
1:45 pm	Depart for lunch	Location: Dereva Hotel POC: Kaendi Munguti
2:00 pm – 3:45 pm	Working lunch with Peace Corps volunteers in Rwanda <i>PMI through "Stomp Malaria" has been partnering with Peace Corps Volunteers</i>	Location: Dereva Hotel POC: Kaendi Munguti

	<i>in malaria control. The delegation will be introduced to 4 Peace Corps volunteers who will discuss their work on malaria prevention in their workplaces.</i>	
3:45 pm	Depart for Kigali <i>Approximately 1 hour long in-vehicle debrief on Rwamagana site visits with Kaendi and Emily</i>	
5:15 pm	Arrive at Marriott Hotel	
	RON Hotel	

Friday, August 23rd (Kigali and Travel) <i>Daily Focus: Visit the national mosquito insectary and meet with the Minister of Health and other private-sector USG partners.</i>		
7:30 am – 9:00 am	Breakfast w/ American Business Owners in Rwanda supported by Feed the Future. <i>Representatives from the American Businesses supported by Feed the Future funding will brief staff on private sector engagement in health and development efforts, as well as the business and investment climate in Rwanda. Event will not involve participation of lobbyists or foreign agents.</i>	<i>No need to bring bags, we will request for a late checkout</i> Location: Marriott Hotel POC: William Herkewitz Note: Please DO NOT wear bugspray or perfumes today as we'll be visiting an insectary.
9:00 am	Depart for Entomology Laboratory and Insectary	Location: Kicukiro School of Public Health POC: William Herkewitz
9:20 am – 11:00 am	Tour of Entomology Laboratory and Insectary <i>The team will be shown the insectary rearing mosquitoes, and there will also be demonstrations on some of the entomological testing undertaken in the laboratory.</i>	Location: Kicukiro School of Public Health POC: Dr. Emmanuel Hakizimana

11:00 am	Depart for lunch	Location: Marriott Hotel POC: Kaendi Munguti
11:20 am - 12:45 pm	Working lunch w/ US Mission to Rwanda staff <i>The team will debrief on the visit, discuss any outstanding issues and get clarifications from the in-country team.</i>	Location: Marriott Hotel POC: Kaendi Munguti
12:45 pm	Depart for Rwanda Ministry of Health <i>Briefing enroute on the MOH's role in malaria and how they work with the NMCP, Global Fund, and other donor governments to further health goals in Rwanda.</i>	Location: Ministry of Health, Kicukiro, Kigali POC: Lisa Godwin
1:00 pm – 2:30 pm	Courtesy Call with Ministry of Health (MOH) <i>Protocol visit to introduce the US delegation to the MOH, share observations from the trip, and learn how the MOH works with the NMCP, Global Fund, other donor governments and other Ministries within the Senegal government to improve the health of its citizens.</i>	Location: Ministry of Health, Kicukiro, Kigali POC: Lisa Godwin
2:30 pm	Depart MOH for Marriott Hotel	
2:50 pm	Arrive Marriott Hotel	
2:50 pm – 5:30 pm	Executive Time	
5:30 pm	Depart hotel for airport	
6:00 pm	Arrive at Kigali airport	
8:05 pm	Depart Kigali on Brussels Airlines Flight 467	
Saturday, August 24th (Travel)		
6:35 am	Arrive in Brussels, Belgium	
10:15 am	Depart Brussels on Brussels Air Flight 515	

12:55 pm	Arrive at Washington Dulles	
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May 14, 2019

Mr. Salvador Ortega
Legislative Correspondent
Office of U.S. Senator Johnny Isakson
131 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Ortega,

Given your congressional oversight role, Malaria No More would like to invite you or a member of your staff on a staff delegation trip to Rwanda, August 18 – 24, 2019, to witness firsthand the U.S. government's malaria prevention, control and elimination efforts as well as to examine the progress made, and challenges that remain on health and development in Rwanda.

Critical investments made by the President's Malaria Initiative (PMI) and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, have lead to tremendous progress in the fight against malaria around the world. The World Health Organization estimates that there have been 1.3 billion fewer malaria cases and more than 7 million lives have been saved since 2000.

Rwanda has been a PMI focus country since FY2007 and has seen significant results from their malaria prevention and treatment efforts, even though 100 percent of the 12 million people who live in Rwanda are at risk of contracting malaria. From 2005 to 2012, there was an 86 percent reduction in malaria incidence and 74 percent reduction in malaria mortality in Rwanda. However, between 2012 and 2016, Rwanda saw just over an 8-fold increase in reported malaria cases. In response, and with the assistance of PMI and the Global Fund, in 2016, Rwanda put in place an effective Malaria Contingency Plan, which has resulted in a 40 percent reduction of severe malaria cases and a 43 percent reduction in malaria-related deaths between the Fiscal Years 2015/2016 and 2017/2018. Furthermore, malaria control and prevention efforts have been a significant contributor to the 67% reduction in under-five mortality seen in Rwanda from 2005 to 2017.

Thanks to bipartisan support in Congress, leadership across Administrations, the United States is leading the world and has achieved outstanding success in fighting malaria. During this trip, staff will have an opportunity to engage with a variety of U.S. government officials from PMI, the Peace Corps, the Department of State, the U.S. Agency for International Development, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. We will also engage directly with foreign government officials, public health experts and other key stakeholders as we examine the malaria landscape in the broader health and development context in Rwanda.

We hope that you will consider joining us and a detailed itinerary will be sent shortly. Please contact Heidi Ross (Heidi.Ross@malarianomore.org) at Malaria No More for additional information.

Thank you,

M. D. Zeller

Joshua Blumenfeld
Managing Director